

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-35. (canceled).

36. (currently amended): A method for measuring an occupying ratio of a compound

1. capable of binding to an epitope recognized by antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111 which bind to CCR5 on a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof, and

2. which compound has an IC50 value between 1.5 nmol/l to 4.2 nmol/l for a ligand binding inhibitory effect after 6 to 10 washings with phosphate buffered saline, said method comprising:

(a) allowing a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof to contact with the compound to be tested,

(b) allowing the test compound-contacted cell or a membrane fraction thereof prepared in the above step (a) to contact with a labeled 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, or a labeled isotype control of the 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, and

(c) calculating an occupying ratio of the compound bound to the epitope region recognized by the antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111 of CCR5 on the cell or membrane fraction thereof, based on the ratio of:

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is bound to CCR5 to

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is not bound to CCR5 corrected by using the labeled isotype control, which is defined as 100%.

37. (currently amended): The method according to claim 36, wherein the compound has an IC₅₀ value between 1.5 nmol/l to 4.2 nmol/l for the ligand binding inhibitory activity-effect after being subjected to 8 washings.

38. (new): A method for measuring an occupying ratio of a compound capable of remaining on a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof even after 6 to 10 washings with phosphate buffered saline, said method comprising:

(a) allowing a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof to contact with the compound to be tested,

(b) allowing the test compound-contacted cell or a membrane fraction thereof prepared in the above step (a) to contact with a labeled 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, or a labeled isotype control of the 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, and

(c) calculating an occupying ratio of the compound bound to the epitope region recognized by the antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111 of CCR5 on the cell or membrane fraction thereof, based on the ratio of:

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is bound to CCR5 to

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is not bound to CCR5 corrected by using the labeled isotype control, which is defined as 100%.

39. (new): A method for measuring an occupying ratio of a compound having a slower dissociation rate from a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof than a compound not capable of binding to an epitope recognized by antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111, said method comprising:

(a) allowing a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof to contact with the compound to be tested,

(b) allowing the test compound-contacted cell or a membrane fraction thereof prepared in the above step (a) to contact with a labeled 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, or a labeled isotype control of the 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, and

(c) calculating an occupying ratio of the compound bound to the epitope region recognized by the antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111 of CCR5 on the cell or membrane fraction thereof, based on the ratio of:

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is bound to CCR5 to

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is not bound to CCR5 corrected by using the labeled isotype control, which is defined as 100%.

40. (new): A method for measuring an occupying ratio of a compound capable of remaining on CCR5 with half-life of at least 12 hours even when the compound is not present in a circulation blood, said method comprising:

(a) allowing a CCR5 expressing cell or a membrane fraction thereof to contact with the compound to be tested,

(b) allowing the test compound-contacted cell or a membrane fraction thereof prepared in the above step (a) to contact with a labeled 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, or a labeled isotype control of the 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody, and

(c) calculating an occupying ratio of the compound bound to the epitope region recognized by the antibodies 45531.111 and 45523.111 of CCR5 on the cell or membrane fraction thereof, based on the ratio of:

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is bound to CCR5 to

a bound amount of 45531.111 or 45523.111 antibody when the compound is not bound to CCR5 corrected by using the labeled isotype control, which is defined as 100%.